



Seattle Police

"Thank an Employee"

Commendation

Name

Comments

To provide you with these monthly commendations in a timely manner, please note that some may be redacted and paraphrased appropriately, and/or transcribed exactly as found in its original format, complete with any erroneous spelling.

Specific details about incident numbers, complainants or victims from the incident are also removed from the commendation where appropriate.

Employee(s)

January 2019

Eric Dupleich #5477
K9 "Jazzy"

The King County Sheriff's Office has one Explosive Detection Dog team assigned to our Metro Transit Police Division. That team is Deputy Jonathan Akiona and K9 "Chase". One of their primary duties is the safe keeping of the Downtown Seattle Transit Tunnel (DSTT). Deputy Akiona asked other local Bomb Dog Teams to periodically provide K9 presence in the DSTT during his absence. Officer Dupleich understood the importance of the mission and volunteered without hesitation to assist with the coverage. Officer Dupleich went above and beyond the request and provided the following efforts in the DSTT: visited 43 stations, boarded 115 buses, and 39 light rail vehicles from February 12th to March 6th and visited 12 stations, boarded 33 buses and 11 light rail vehicles on May 15th and 16th. Upon Deputy Akiona's return to duty, he was approached by numerous DSTT security guards, transit supervisors, bus drivers, LRV operators, and maintenance personnel, who all stated they were very appreciative of Officer Dupleich and K9 "Jazzy" presence. The King County Sheriff's office and the King County Metro Transit Police would like to personally thank Officer Dupleich and K9 "Jazzy" for a job well done. Their performance is in keeping with the finest traditions of the Law Enforcement community and brings great credit upon himself, his K9 unit, and the Seattle Police Department.

Officer Name Not
Provided

I believe the officer that defended himself from the suspect that night did the right thing. I see this activity as a pedestrian and bus rider all the time. That area is very dangerous. So, thank you. Hang in there, SPD. It's a tough job, but we appreciate you.

Wesley Friesen #6744
Susan Daley #7135

The support provided by Detective Wesley Friesen, Susan Daley, and all the others for the Seattle Shield program is so very valuable. It's tremendously valuable to me as a security manager from a resource, education, networking and partnership standpoint. Recently Detective Friesen helped me assess a written threat to one of our Board members. He was very prompt and provided detail which in turn I was able to share with our senior leadership. Thank you for that specifically, and thank you for leading the way and continuing Seattle Shield.

Eric Michl #4494
Mark James #6747
Daniel Auderer #7499
Thomas Heller #7427
Brian Hewitt #7654
Jacob Masterson #8350

Each year during the holidays, the DUI Squad is supplemented by highly motivated officers who have shown a desire to take impaired drivers off of the road. This DUI holiday emphasis patrol is often referred to as Drunk Net. This year I had the pleasure of supervising the DUI Squad during Drunk Net. The squad was comprised of these six officers from November 28, 2018 until January 8, 2019. Three of the officers were loaned from patrol. During this six week period, the squad worked 26 regular duty shifts plus one unit-wide mandatory overtime shift on New Year's Eve. Several of the officers also came in on their days off to work Target Zero Team DUI emphasis shifts during and after Seahawks home games. In the course of Drunk Net, the DUI Squad made 144 total arrests. 139 of those arrests were of impaired drivers. 118 of those impaired driving arrests occurred between the start of Drunk Net (November 28) and New Year's Eve. These incredible numbers were achieved even when two of our officers were on vacation for much of December. Local media outlets reported that between Black Friday and Christmas, 305 impaired drivers had been taken off the road in King County alone; those numbers did not include arrests made by these six SPD officers, which would have accounted for more than a third of that total. I have been assigned to the DUI Squad since 2015 and have worked Drunk Net each year since 2012. I have never seen the amount of production or tireless dedication to taking impaired drivers off the streets as I have with this crew this year. Frequently, the officers would process one impaired driver then immediately make themselves available to handle another DUI investigation. It was not unusual for the officers to arrest two or even three impaired drivers in one shift. One officer in particular arrested four in one shift. By arresting these impaired drivers these officers most likely saved countless lives, including those that they arrested. The officers were essentially out there preventing homicides and educating drivers on the dangers of driving while drunk or high (or in some cases drunk and high). They should be recognized and commended for their work in keeping this city safe.

Katherine Rottman #8571

I was downtown with my elderly parents when our car broke down. My father is in a wheelchair and just diagnosed with dementia. My mother was driving and very flustered. We were able to get a tow company out but could not get an Uber ride home. Officer Rottman put my dad's chair in the back of her patrol car and gave the three of us plus my dog a ride home all the way to Shoreline. We were so grateful for the ride! We could have been out in the cold with my dad and dog for a long time trying to get a ride home.

Scott Schmidt #5569

Det. Schmidt was the investigating officer for an alcohol-related crash that occurred on Feb. 5, 2017, where an impaired driver struck my car. My wife and I were injured and she was hospitalized. Det. Schmidt contacted me after we were released, took statements and began his investigation. He was highly professional in all of his communications, and I could tell he was doing his best to present a good case to the prosecutor's office. My wife and I would like to pass on our thanks to Det. Schmidt for his hard work, honesty, and clarity while helping us deal with a very difficult time in our lives. He strikes me as a hardworking and kind man. Thank you to the entire investigation team.

Nicholas Cook #7739 Ethan Wolfinger #7721	<i>Officer Cook stands out above the rest for many reasons but on this particular day I was impressed by his show of compassion while helping a known thief who was stuck inside my clothing donation bin. Officer Cook and Officer Wolfinger were both extremely professional and lifted the suspect out carefully once he was free. This is not the only time that I have spoken with both of these officers; I have managed a very busy Shell station on Beacon Hill for the last 12 years and need police assistance here often. Lucky for me there are officers like Cook and Wolfinger making the dealings that I have with SPD as pleasant as they can be. I know that police all too often have negative interactions so I felt that it was important for me to mention one of the many times that these officers have gone above and beyond to help restore safety to my business. Please tell Officers Cook and Wolfinger so they will know how appreciated they really are.</i>
Officer Name Not Provided	<i>My sincere thanks to all officers in the East Precinct, mounted and patrol, for the increased presence and assistance keeping order in the area around my business. The problem is ongoing but increased police presence is improving conditions. My tenants and store owners have also voiced their gratitude.</i>
Michael Kebba #5164	<i>Lieutenant, I can't thank you enough for all of your help. You have been thoughtful and articulate. All the police officers across the country helping combat the opioid drug epidemic have a job that I cannot imagine the difficulties, dangers, and complexities of. I appreciate so much the extra miles you went to listen to my concerns with good intent, a concerned and trusting ear, and especially thorough and candid knowledge of the many conflicting aspects of this problem and the impossible position in battling it on all sides! Your clear articulation of the problems I related to you and those you and Seattle Police Department yourselves battle has been invaluable. I can safely say you have made THE difference to me in the tragedy of my son's overdose death.</i>
Walker Dickson #7288	<i>Officer Dickson was dispatched to my building of residence regarding a forced entry burglary. This was after the fact, so not an emergency. Despite that, response time was only around 15-20 minutes. An incident report was taken, and the details were confirmed back to me. Officer Dickson conducted himself in a highly professional manner, showed interest in the details and empathized with my circumstance.</i>
Officer Name Not Provided	<i>Thanks to everyone for your professionalism, patience, and kindness during the Women's March. It struck me that SPD officers provided security for many events over the course of a year and see all kinds of challenging expressions of First Amendment rights. Thank you for standing in the face of challenging words and actions and keeping the peace.</i>
Michael Fabbriante #7633	<i>This officer was polite and considerate. He did a great job and should be commended for his service!</i>
Dillon Butenhoff #8303	<i>The officer has a great demeanor. He patiently listened, offered good advice and had a good perspective on police work, all of which were much appreciated.</i>
Brandon Craig #7731	<i>I had an issue with a destructive roommate. Officer Craig handled the situation with integrity and respect. I appreciate Seattle PD's hard work.</i>
Officer Name Not Provided	<i>Thank you to all the officers involved in cleaning the tents out of the parking spots so people can park for their jobs.</i>

Zachary Backman #8619 Garick Mattson #8305	<i>Officer Backman and his partner were extremely kind, professional, and sincere when working with me as I gave my statement for their report on an incident that was not easy to talk about. They laughed at my silly jokes, explained the process thoroughly, and ultimately put me ease. I didn't even mind the delay because I felt so much better after being heard and reassured that I did the right thing by them. Thank you for the good work you do. It is appreciated.</i>
Equine Officer "Justice" Equine Officer "Monty"	<i>The horses (and their human officers) are great outreach for the department. Several families interacted with them over the twenty minutes we spent chatting. I would love for the mounted patrol to visit my neighborhood (Georgetown) on a semi-regular basis. Maybe you could create a social media presence for a couple of the horses so that people could know when and where they would be appearing (for outreach purposes only, not for regular patrols of course). Thanks to Justice and Monty for being awesome!</i>
Eugene Schubeck #6696	<i>Officer Schubeck responded to a traffic accident in front of my house. I have PTSD (due to being run over in my yard) and the car this morning wiped out my tulip planters. Planting the flowers was part of my therapy. I freaked out when I saw the disaster the accident had made of all my work. He was kind and firm and redirected me to help me get focused. Thank you.</i>
Officer Name Not Provided	<i>I want to thank the officer for being incredibly patient while people are getting mad and honking their horns because of the Viaduct closure. I work in downtown Seattle and make the commute daily and over the past two weeks I can only imagine how difficult that job has been. I've seen multiple people walk up to him and ask him why it is taking so long and he's always polite and professional with his response.</i>